JOY, TRAGEDY, DESPAIR MARK HOMECOMING OF WAR WRECKS

Pathetic Scenes at Paris Railroad Station as Soldiers Crippled for Life Are Received by Their Loved Ones

By WILLIAM T. MARTIN.

T is an interesting gathering, the crowd standing there in the cold. ruary morning, anxiously peering through the great door of the Paris railroad station. It is dark and hollow inside except for the murky, yellow giare of a few dirty electric bulbs

On all the faces there is a look of strained eagerness, subdued to the point of pain. Something seems about nost every human type is represented There are old and young of both sexes ill clad, well clad, richly clad, Practically all wear some token of mourning and many are in deep black. A very old women and men, too old be tottering around alone, are deeral have nobody to help them and are doing as they can, leaning on canes or against the wall of the station. Here and there a child hugs the folds of its

what might in a few minutes be the sweethearts, mothers, wives and the and noiselessly, the ex-soldiers can be civilians of note, who salute and lift otherwise level ones of the encoming seen at the windows. Most of them their hats to the homecomers. One cripples. Just now no one knows, seem to be able to stand up or remain fellow, wheeled along in a chair, with They have been notified by the authorities, who have only names, and mere names, some have learned before, are deceptive. From the anxious faces in sitting postures. The strongest a leg and an arm missing, manages to hold onto a large French flag. It is frayed at the edges and much faded. It partly covers his body and it is evident that with the exception these they have apparently cleaned the missing leg. He draws a solemn of a few the news is that of the resur- and mended after the long detention salute and a tear as he passes.

rainy dawn of the breaking Feb-

strung over the high ceiling.

second grands blesses' train of the coaches by the characteristic bits of yet will it last, do you know?" asks a war. French soldiers taken in attacks, Swiss scenery inlaid along the walls little, thin fellow with a shaggy beard and held for months as prisoners of of the compartments. It runs along and an armless sleeve pinned over his war, their identities lost in the prison the side of the station at the other chest. He has a catch in his voice camps of Germany and finally given end under a shed. Brancardiers line up along the dark ing in Germany, the dirty cows! Ah. up as hopelessly maimed and forever infit for further military service, are narrow platform, lighted by a glaring it is good here, this place! I used to incandescent here and there. Others come here to see an aunt in the counpected in a few minutes. It is a spe- carry heaps of blankets and stretchers try. I was happy then. My mother, which they pile at regular intervals is she here?"

The throng at the door represent along the platform.

rection of the dead.

The train will pull in at the far end of the station and the huge room im
in the prison camps. Stuck in their of the soldiers are now assembled in the large room. The place is decorediately inside is reserved for the ers. gifts received from Swiss children rated with flowers, ferns and flags. rowd and into the station. Inside, them the war's derelicts cram the strewn with roses. At the plates are and brancardiers gathered at the anguish she now expects, the drivers line up in order, the backs windows until the doors are opened. little tri-colored favors of divers types, tables in silence turn to look. retchers and lay them in order on one smiles.

with red crossed into the crowd there are some of the quickly turn their faces away, the quickly turn their faces away, the keenly sensitive manner of the who quickly turn their faces away, it the keenly sensitive manner of the keenly sensitive man



Two letters to the front that may remain without an answer.

Inside, as brancardiers and drivers stand and wait, it seems exceptionally stand without the door. Standardiers and drivers to hobble along with the help of the station the poorly dressed. An old aman hobbles "My boy—boy!" throws herself about the neck of the station the provide still stand without the door. They are held back by gendarmes at feebly extended toward an elderly. Sucks and little souvenirs of all such that the far end of a long with the aid of a can an hobbles. "My boy—boy!" throws herself about the neck of the station the poorly dressed. An old aman hobbles crowds still stand without the door. They are held back by gendarmes at feebly extended toward an elderly. Sucks and little souvenirs of all stands on one leg and a wire substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the provide crowds still stand without the door. They are held back by gendarmes at feebly extended toward an elderly. Sucks and little souvenirs of all stands on one leg and a wire substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the provide crowds still stand without the door. They are held back by gendarmes at the neck of the stands on one leg and a wire substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the way the names and carry the ples of gaudy first the neck of the soldier.

There is a lieutenant there. Was the neck of the stands on one leg and a wire substitute for the other. An arm appeal in that one word, the names of the name of the

as the Red Cross people flock to the certifor and crowd through little openings of the dress that the sale of the certifor and crowd outside is not allowed to enter.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The train finally pulls in—a long of second class cars of the Swiss.

The and the tables cealed, but a smile, and therein is part their dress, their hat hands even a should their dress, their hat he cown dead on the sabout their dress, their hat he cagerness to get at the tables of the grain dress.

They are unal on its associate.

They are unal on its associate.

They are unal on its associate.

The ware unal on its associate.

The ambulances have left and the among the people, their dress, their hat ceaten of the left one full of hope and an officent of the pull in deeper or the sale of the dress, their hat ceaten of the substitute openings of the dress of the stand the substitute openings of the dress of the substitute openings of the dress of the substitute opening of the dress of the substitute opening of the same of the substitute openings of the substitute openings of the substitute opening of the dress of the substitute openings of the substitute openings of the substitute openings of the substitute openings of the

mbulances of the various Red Cross on their way through the country. In the country of the corridor leading to where the a weary hopelessness as though the pass on, going over the ground again of the corridor leading to where the a weary hopelessness as though the pass on, going over the ground again of the corridor leading to where the a weary hopelessness as though the returned soldiers continue to pass.

The majority the returned soldiers continue to pass.

pectancy. Women rush from one end of another life—he was a surgeon not taken to the waiting ambulances in the of the large room to the other with long out of school and his was a big large room at the other end of the little cries as they catch sight of the ambition. He thinks of this while the corridor. Their loved ones help them girl stands by.

heart but sees her not, for he is blind made after much hard work and pracforever, so he feels her face and smiles. tice. But he can do these things bet-A woman rushes into a soldier's arms ter now, and easier, and he has a sud- and places prepared by the Governand suddenly recoils to make doubly den hope.

sure of his identity. Part of his face Meanwhile the air is filled with little will otherwise be taken care of. Here seen shot away. But he can see, cries, much excited talking. There is they will be visited by those they

faces they seek.

mouth. But he does his best.

and he stands up and throws his arms relief after the pent up anxiety of know. As the ambulances pass from about her. He can only mumble in- weary months and there are sobs as the yards into the street people passdistinctly from a semblance of a still others find those they look for, ing flock to the curbs, attracted by nouth. But he does his best.

Nurses tripping through the throngs the sights from the rear ends of the ministering here and there, smiling ambulances—wounded soldiers betry to cloak their eagerness with looks cheerfully, unexpectedly burst into decked in flags and gaudy material. of unconcern as they pass from table sobs and hurry away as they see They have never seen anything like to table showing a little photograph. things not describable, while among it. Then it comes: From the far end the bitterest of disappointment, with the soldiers, and sad smiles. Still they up along the sides there is not a dry who linger to the end, anxiously searching and researching the faces as But they meet only headshakes from the several hundred observers lined

incline before the door past the see hear or feel their fellowmen about tables are spread with real linen and swish of many feet and the officers gatherings before only to meet the hearts are breaking. No one has seen of the crowd are interspersed among through the corridor, are packed into him. Sometimes they look long and the places at the tables, exultant and the cars and are whisked away. But The people flock ahead and begin to hard at some disfigured face before satisfied, having found those they it seems in vain. the cars open and facing each other. It is a wonderful experience after it is evident that the various Red orderlies busy themselves with indescribable hardships, they say. No Cross societies have concentrated their sweethearts and children comes on sound but the swish of the feet. The Cross societies have concentrated their sweethearts and children comes on efforts to stretch the funds allotted to steadily through the long, narrow passoldiers sit motionless in their chairs soldiers. He is crippled and as he steadily through the long, narrow passoldiers sit motionless in their chairs soldiers. The long string or parents, where the long string or parents, which is the long string or parents, where the long string or parents, which is the long string or parents and the long string or parents and the long string or parents are efforts to stretches and lay them in order on the floor near the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the floor near the floor near the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the floor near the floor near the cars and stand the floor near the floor nea

Women with babies at relief post; their soldier husbands are dead or prisoners of war. Much happens in the next few sec-onds. Loved ones are clasped with the arrival and is telling him that it makes people.

The banquet over, the soldiers are

husband. He sees the child for the learn how to make little useful things. ambulances one by one, and as the cars first time. A soldier holds his sweet- In his bag are some articles he has

The speaker is a notable from the ruary day.

Honors and Tender Care for Heroes Blind and Maimed After the Many Hardships of Prison Life

have been for France, for those they love, for others, and the thought is just compensation. He has lost three sons in the war. They died for their country and he regrets he has no more to serve France as nobly.

"I can still say 'Vive la France!" he adds and sits down. Follows from somewhere a few scattered cheers, then a slight burst of applause that suddenly spreads around and fills the room. Up and down the long tables run wavering shouts of are soldiers who snatch the little tri-

color flags from their breasts or caps and with feeble arms wave them as

they cry out in voices shaken and

It takes some seconds for the cheering to die down. Here and there are tittle flags. It is with something of the eager patriotism of former days and on their faces is nothing of regret. They have sacrificed their all, but it has been for France, their country, and there is cause for pride in

and clasp each other. They fill the their destinations.

The cripples go to various hospitals

Back in the station, there are those

There is a woman in deep mourning

BACKBONE OF FRENCH ARMY THE PEASANT TRAINED IN FREE SCHOOLS

Alphonse Aulard, professor of the history of the French Revolu-tion at the University of Paris and author of the "Histoire Politique de la Revolution Francaise." has made a career out of the defence of the tradition of the French Revolution against the attacks of the reaction, notably of Taine. Since the opening of the war he has had a considerable calming influence on the more violent French opinion and has done much by his articles in the Parisian daily press to soothe useless, wasteful hatred, and to direct French energy into more effective channels. He has stimulated the courage of citizens by bluntly telling them the truth about the military and diplomatic

M. Aulard is widely known to American history students for his conviction that the French Revolution came from America to France. to speak. He attaches the greatest historical importance to the influence which our practical demonstration of violent revolution against absolutism in government had on the French liberal movement immediately preceding the outburst of 1789. M. Aulard is a tremendous admirer of the United States and of Americans, whom he regards as the pure, uncorrupted liberals of the earth.

In the two articles printed herewith M. Aulard throws a new and interesting light on the state of public opinion in France and the causes of the military strength displayed by the Republic.

not travelled in France during these patriot.

obtain from these ignorant peas- of the news.

By ALPHONSE AULARD. cept a few tardy provinces, most peas- It is for these reasons of social de-DO not think that it is possible ants can read and write. The repubto understand how France can lie's normal schools have turned out support so long and so hard a war as the present conflict with war as the present conflict with such firmness and with no manifestation of lassitude or exhaustion with-cut taking into account the state of dominated by the village steping ill and his property. out taking into account the state of mind and the moral and material condition of the French peasantry.

French peasants have changed a French peasants have changed a great deal since the Franco-German war of 1870-1871; a foreigner who had patrie. The peasant has become a patriot.

In our present armies, whose former officers have almost entirely disappeared under the wear of war, it has been found easy to secure new officers from the educated individuals patriot.

of the country they were still of an tions have played a great part. The spirit. Led in battle by the school-almost barbarian degree of naivete. evening lessons given by schoolmas-master in whom he has so much con-Thus, in June or July of 1870, some ters to grown people, the friendly individual talks between teachers and stanchest of soldiers.

Besides, his spirit is kept up by the that a wealthy country gentleman fluence of the schoolmaster in the vil- knowledge that during his absence his who lived among them had conspired lage—often of almost prependerant au- family is being looked after. He knows to establish the old order, with feudal thority-have contributed to the gentuck that his relatives are not suffering.

Are Naturally not all French peascessful medium of peasant education.
For the past twenty-five years they have been spreading throughout the have been spreading throughout the country representation of this kind. constonal incidents of this kind. country, penetrating even to the most secluded districts. If all the peasants do not read them themselves, there is do not read them themselves, there is found themselves in such good for found the good for found the good for found themselves in such good for found the good fo do not read them themselves, there is scarcely a family where one member improvise armies composed chiefly of conditions the could of the news.

do not read them themselves, there is found themselves in such good fortune as since the opening of the war. In the cities, where living is dear, workingmen's wives, on the other workingmen's wives, on the other

were generally only heroic mobs, all louse and the Petit Marseillais of the complain very much of the war, do the more so because the peasants had provincial press are excellent edu-no particular notion of what France cators of the people by virtue of their length, and do not write discouraging

France in the Present War Fighting as the Champion of Liberty, Not From the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine as to put all their confidence and all their Desire of Vengeance, Says Prof. Alphonse Aulard, Famous Historian

from the bondage of ignorance.

as of weakness. "They told us noth-

At the door through which they

As the train moves along, slowly pass stand a galaxy of officers and

Rapid and colorless as is tny exthe French peasantry, it nevertheless may serve to account for the fact that the basis of the present French armies. even-tenths peasant as they are, is to much more soldier than was that of Gambetta's armies, though the present armies at least as regards the very numerous latest recruits, have en improvised to almost the same degree that Gambetta's troops were. velopment that we have now such an

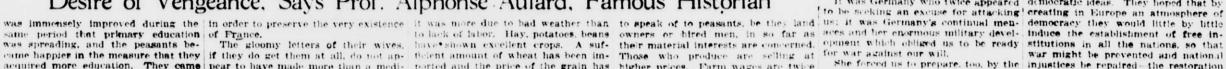
It is not alone to the primary school among the simple privates. The forty-five years would not recognize them if he should return now.

In 1870 the peasants of many resonance characterized by the most profound ignorance. In some parts of the country they were still of an

rights, &c., actually burned this land-lord slowly to death with a green wood eral work of education.

Newspapers have also been a sucThe Government's allowance to sol-

Such newspapers as the Petit Pahand, are hard put to it. The result
for this reason Gambetta's armies





PROF. ALPHONSE AULARD.

were called men without a country worth from 24 to 25 francs, only three evitable.

But this hatted cooled off quickly.

Sationalists supported and developed pensable, vital necessity, and always because of a childish use of language, or four francs a sack more than be-

has made the peasants more sensitive man rule. Now they are unhappy and solutist, old fashioned, warlike govof spirit. They mourn their dead more their state of suffering was known to

continual struggle with nature. There are many other things which could be said of this subject, so little known to foreigners. But I trust that the little sketch which I have made here will make clear the reasons for the firmness of French public opinion during this long and cruel war.

**There are many other things which could be said of this subject, so little and Germany impossible. However, our love of peace was so strong that our intellectuals and our leaders of opinion came to avoid any expression which bere any relation to the possibility of an offensive war against Germany.

**There are many other things which could be said of this subject, so little strong that our intellectuals and our leaders of opinion came to avoid any expression which bere any relation to the possibility of an offensive war against Germany.

there are among the citizens of neu- organization of Europe.

the war of 1870-1871, which bied us and mutilated us, we feit hatred for German victors and conquerors. It is herself to the teeth against a possible certain that at first the treaty of German attack, especially during these cannot be described by the same of the conferred with some German representative legislaters at Berne.

As for the increase in our arma-

the more so because the peasants had particular notion of what France in the particular notion of what France is the people by virtue of their husbands at the front in the terrible trials which they were to endure.

Free education, obligatory and re-education, obligatory and re-education obligatory

the fruit of peaceful negotiation only. ardor into the spread of liberal and

bitterly than in the time of Napoleon, everybody. The odious stupidities of but this suffering, even among the the Germans in Alsace-Lorraine have women, is tempered by the spirit and had almost as strong an influence as habit of resignation acquired in their the zet of annexation itself in making of entering or had already entered into

Not a War of Revenge.

Stit true, as many Germans assert, that France hated Germany, thought of nothing but a war of the civic mother of nothing but a war of the content o the war, in which I had fought as a man Socialists came to be frequent. revenge, and underhandedly pre- Danton, "Do all our disputes kill a Kaiser in so far as he might be inpared an attack, which Germany, thus menaced in her very existence, only anticipated?

No, it is not true.

If there are among the Germans who is the measures would secure a just the parents of the measures would secure a just the parents of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the formal of the measures would secure a just the measures would secure a say this some who believe it and if pacific measures would secure a just late Jean Jaures, not only dreamed of

garding the responsibility of the belligerents it is because they have only a superficial knowledge of French af-

Frankfort was considered by us as last years. Never did they ask for a ments, they were never undertaken ex-

It was Germany who twice appeared democratic ideas. They hoped that by to be seeking an excuse for attacking creating in Europe an atmosphere of war might be prevented and national acquired more education. They came out of the economic slavery of poverity at the same time as they emerged workingmen of radical convictions, country of the Charente a sack of middle class property owners who are from the bondage of ignorance.

They came pear to have made more than a mediported and the price of the grain has higher prices. Farm wages are twice tyrannical brutality with which she or the independence of Alsace-Lor-raine included—by the mere force of radical convictions, country of the Charente a sack of middle class property owners who are raine.

a patriotism of a more enlightened of the world, could have obtained a France a model democracy whose insort of voluntary resignation from the fluence would win over, among other It is through the loss of men, above French people only under the condi- peoples, the Germans, influencing all, that the war is affecting the peas- tion that the conquered provinces them to substitute a liberal, modes a ant class. Widely spread education should have been content under Ger- and pacific government for their ab-

Among French democrats the Soa cordial reconciliation between France, the democratic condition. Taking seduring this long and cruel war.

If I may speak of myself as an example, I remember that soon after the war, in which I had fourth.

The talks between French and Ger-

there are among the citizens of heart ral countries some who accept this theory and thereby fall into error re-thong association, the Ligue de l'Entre ral countries fall into error re-thong association, the Ligue de l'Entre ral countries fall into error re-thong association, the Ligue de l'Entre ral countries fall into error re-thong association, the Ligue de l'Entre ral countries fall into error re-thong association.

fairs and the French spirit, because they mistake a few manifestations of individuals for an expression of our public opinion as a whole.

It is certain that immediately after the war of 1879-1871, which bied us order the better to project ourselves.

War.

Even the Nationalists, as we call our most burning patriots, contented themselves with not believing in the pacific intentions of Germany and with calling for mereased armaments in the spirit of the spirit

only a truce document, and another French attack against Germany. cept in answer to sudden and enorsyndicalists who in time of peace wheat weighing 80 kilograms is now war appeared to us to be rapidly in- The ardor with which these same mous German increases, as an indis-

Free education, obligatory and religiously neutral, has gradually, but
on the whole rapidly, brought the
peasantry out of ignorance.

Free education, obligatory and religiously neutral, has gradually, but
on the whole rapidly, brought the
peasantry out of ignorance.

Free education, obligatory and religiously neutral, has gradually, but
on the whole rapidly, brought the
peasantry out of ignorance.

French peasantry out of ignorance o